

HA-1809
1932 or 1943
Bel Air
Private

The Stinchcomb House, 28 Hickory Ave., faces south on a rise over the street across from the Bel Air Town Hall. Built around 1932, the house is a 1 1/2 story cottage gable roofed stone T-shaped cottage. It is between a large bungalow and a clapboard cottage with fieldstone accents.

This block of Hickory was vacant on the 1930 Sandborn Insurance Map, except for a chicken farm on the south corner. There was nothing but farm land across the street where the Bel Air Town Hall and the Public Library now stand. Contractor Harry Orsburn bought a \$2000 defaulted mortgage in 1931 and subdivided it. It seems reasonable to suppose that he built the houses, two of which -- HA-1808 and this one -- were in a style new to Bel Air, a cozy cottage. The house may have been built in 1932 as the title suggests, since HA-1808, which, although clapboard, resembles it, was built in 1935. This stone cottage is unique in the Bel Air survey, more horizontal than the styles of the 1920s and built of stone, which is unusual in town in any style.

HA-1809
Stinchcomb House
Bel Air, Harford Co.

FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

3. Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

☐ 11. Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

☒ 12. Modern Period 1930 - present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme:

2. Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community
Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Architecture

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function and Use: Private Residence

Known Design Source: unknown

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. SH-1009

Magi No. _____

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Stinchcomb House

and/or common _____

2. Location

street & number 28 Hickory Ave. n/a not for publicationcity, town Bel Air _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 3rdstate MD county Harford

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> </u> building(s)	<u> </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u> </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u> </u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Dr. R. B. Lawrencestreet & number 28 Hickory Ave. telephone no.: 879-8727city, town Bel Air state and zip code MD 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 999street & number _____ folio 594city, town Bel Air state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title _____

date _____ federal state county local

Jepository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Survey No. A-1609

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing resource count: one

The Stinchcomb House, 28 Hickory Ave., faces south on a rise over the street across from the Bel Air Town Hall. Built around 1932, the house represents a transition in Bel Air architecture. As tastes began to change in the 1930s, the blocky styles of the 1920s -- the four-square and the bungalow -- gave way in some areas to a 1 1/2 story cottage style more horizontal and cozy. The house is unusual in its fieldstone construction, which is not often found in town.

The 3 bay house has a gable-roofed front (east) block with an equally wide gabled section to the rear (west), its roof at right angles to the front. Twin double windowed gable-roofed dormers adorn both sides of the rear gable (south and north). There are replacement windows throughout. The rapid movement of the stone facade is thrust down by a narrow continuation of the south gable which widens half way down into a small wall at right angles to the facade; this defines the plane of the facade as well as the front patio and is stopped by the gable over the round-arched entrance (in the south bay). The eye is forced down again and to the side and then back up as the motion flows up the chimney which rises between the multipaned window ending near the roof line and a pair of casements. A side entrance on the south is topped by a small shed roof. Single double-hung sash windows occur on the other 3 elevations.

The interior has been much altered by the conversion of the house to medical offices. Original elements include the massive fieldstone fire-place (no mantel) with a bench under the window on the south in the east wall of the former living room and the open string straight-run staircase with carved brackets and a balustrade of slender, tapered balusters along the south wall. A slender turned newel ends in a handrail scroll. The rest of the level is now examining rooms. The second story has one large room (south) and a kitchen flanking a large hall, all of which are recent.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA-1809

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1932 or 1943 **Builder/Architect** Harry Orsburn

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This block of Hickory was vacant on the 1930 Sandborn Insurance Map, except for a chicken farm on the south corner. There was nothing but farm land across the street where the Bel Air Town Hall and the Public Library now stand. Contractor Harry Orsburn bought a \$2000 defaulted mortgage in 1931 and subdivided it. It seems reasonable to suppose that he built the houses, two of which -- HA-1808 and this one -- were in a style new to Bel Air, a cozy cottage. The third -- HA-1810 -- is a large bungalow, built in 1943. This one may have been built in 1932 as the title suggests, since HA-1808, which, although clapboard, resembles it, was built in 1935. This stone cottage is unique in the Bel Air survey, more horizontal than the styles of the 1920s and built of stone, which is unusual in town in any style.

Kenneth Smick, who owned the property from 1932 to 1943, had a store in Edgewood in 1953.

Kenneth Stinchcomb, owner from 1943 to 1965, owned Kroh's Cleaners in Bel Air.

Linwood Beshore, owner from 1965 to 1967, owned a furniture store on Main Street. He and his wife were killed in an automobile accident.

Robert Lawrence, the present owner, is a chiropractor. During his ownership the ground floor was altered into waiting room and examining rooms. The second floor room and kitchen also date to his ownership.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA-1609

Harford County Land records
Harford County Directory, 1953
Bel Air Centennial Book, IV 9, 10
Site visit, 10 April 1993

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Bel AirQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 856 in the Town of Bel Air, 94' (Hickory) x 200'.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Marilyn M. Lareworganization _____ date 6-2-93street & number RD 1 Box 219 New Park Rd. telephone 717-993-3557city or town New Park state PA 17352

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

100 COMMUNITY
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2002
514-7400

HA-1809
Stinchcomb House
28 Hickory Ave.
Bel Air, MD 21014

owner: Dr. Robert B. Lawrence, Jr.

999/594 27 May 1976
Albert E. Anderson and Ruth E.
to
Robert B. Lawrence, Jr.

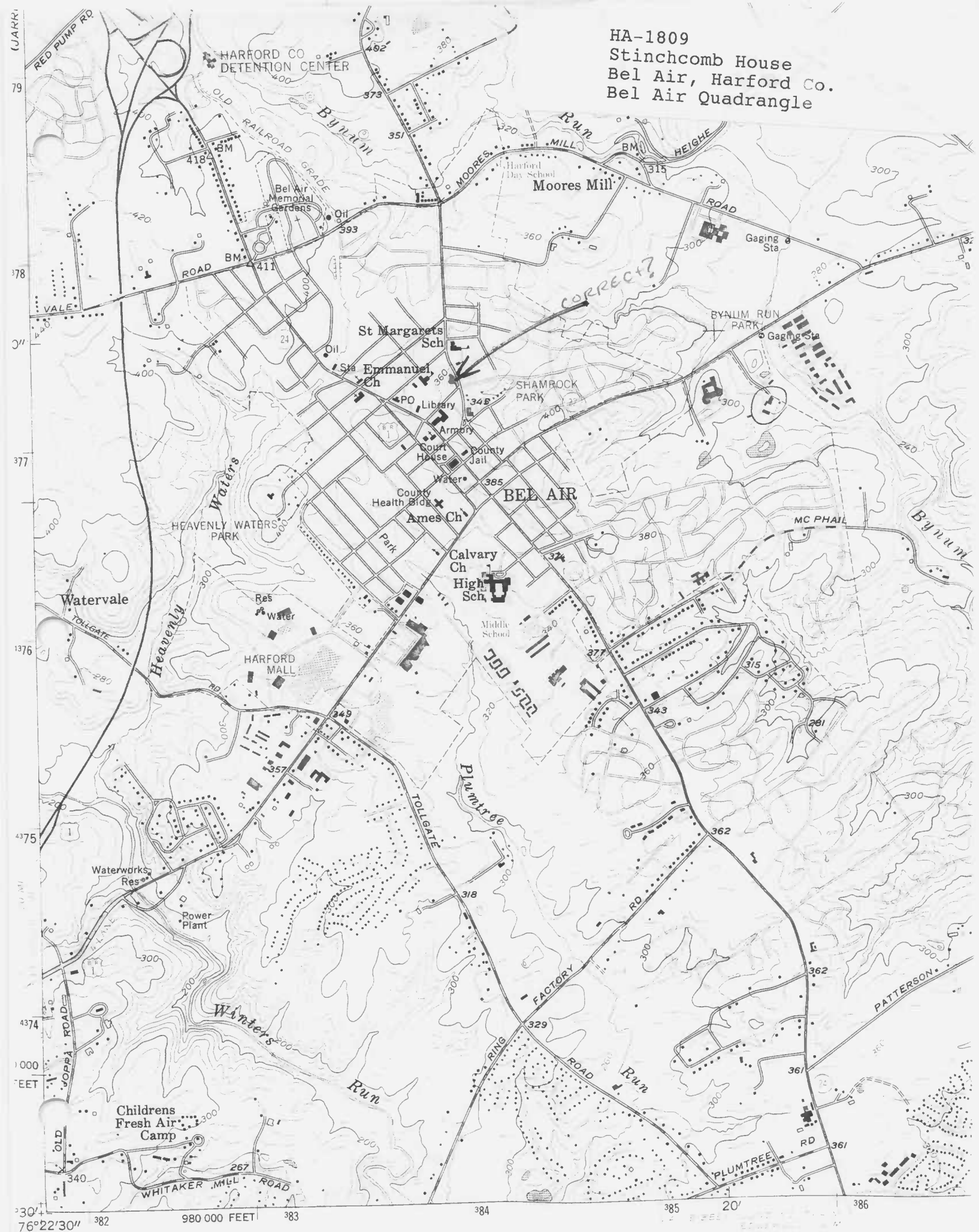
732/198 6 Jan 1967
Linwood L. Beshore and Sadie D.
to
Albert E. Anderson and Ruth E.

681/246 12 July 1965
Edward N. Stinchcomb and Marjorie E.
to
Linwood L. Beshore and Sadie D.

278/371 26 July 1943
Kenneth B. Smick and Myrtle L.
to
Edward N. Stinchcomb and Marjorie E.

part of:
223/282 14 May 1932
Harry W. Orsburn and Fern A.
to
Kenneth B. Smick and Myrtle L.
Orsburn subdivided 4 acres he acquired by purchasing a
\$2000 mortgage assignment 21 July 1931 by 221/49.

HA-1809
Stinchcomb House
Bel Air, Harford Co.
Bel Air Quadrangle





HA 1029

281 - 1029

102 - 1029

102 - 1029

102 - 1029

102 - 1029

102 - 1029

28 HICKORY AVE.
BEL AIR



LA-1809
STINE
2-18-54
6-27-54

6/23
3/24
10/24
2-14

28 HICKORY AVE.
BEL AIR



42 500
500 1000
500 1000
500 1000

5. 12. 20
2. 5. 4

28 HICKORY AVE
BEL AIR



28 HICKORY AVE
BEL AIR